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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/770,984	01/26/2001	Raymond Lee	5384/55102	7541

7590 01/06/2004

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600 13 TH STREET N.W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3096

EXAMINER
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OUELLETTE, JONATHAN P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3629

DATE MAILED: 01/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Applicati n N .

09/770,984

Applicant(s)

LEE ET AL.

Examin r

Jonathan Ouellette

Art Unit

3629

-- The MAILING DATE of this c mmunication appears on th cover she t with the correspondence address --

## Peri d for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 January 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Objections*

1. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: “an updating a database of such delivery point addresses,” is written twice in the preamble, and “and/or” should be deleted after “matched” on line 11. Appropriate correction is required.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
3. **Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Drummond (Drummond, William J., “Address matching – GIS technology for mapping human activity patterns,” *Journal of the American Planning Association*, v61n2, pp:240-251, Spring 1995) in view of Yura (US 6,327,373).**
4. As per independent Claims 1 and 5, Drummond discloses a computerized method (system) for learning a delivery point address and updating a database of such delivery point addresses by using unmatched and/or unused data: the method includes; a. comparing the text string to a first set of preexisting data in address database (directory retrieval system database) to determine a match for the data, according to a first set of predetermined rules; b. separating

the matched data from the unmatched data and/or unused data determined by step (a); and c. correlating the unmatched and/or unused data to a second set of preexisting data according to a second set of predetermined rules, wherein upon the presentation of another misspecified address with the same intended delivery point as the previous misspecified address and having similar unmatched and/or unused data, the correct point of delivery for the other misspecified address can be automatically determined (pgs. 8-9 of 13). (Drummond, William J., "Address matching – GIS technology for mapping human activity patterns," Journal of the American Planning Association, v61n2, pp:240-251, Spring 1995)

5. Drummond fails to expressly disclose wherein the address data is obtained by capturing text string from said mail piece using image capture means.
6. Yura teaches obtaining address data by capturing text string from said mail piece using image capture means (C1 L49-67, C2 L1-45, C3 L34-37).
7. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included wherein the address data is obtained by capturing text string from said mail piece using image capture means, as disclosed by Yura in the system disclosed by Drummond, for the advantage of providing a computerized method (system) for learning a delivery point address and updating a database of such delivery point addresses by using unmatched and/or unused data, with the ability to increase the effectiveness of the system by incorporating address data obtained from traditional postal formats.
8. As per Claim 2, Drummond and Yura disclose separating unused data from used data for said mail piece determined by step (b); and correlating said unused data from said mail piece to the set of preexisting address data according to a third set of predetermined rules, wherein

upon the presentation to the image capture means of the other mail piece with the same intended delivery point as the mail piece and having similar unused data as the at least one mail piece, the correct point of delivery for the other mail piece can be automatically determined.

9. As per Claims 3 and 6, Drummond and Yura disclose wherein said capture means comprises an optical character recognition system.
10. As per Claims 4 and 7, Drummond and Yura disclose wherein said correlation step is performed utilizing a search engine.

### ***Conclusion***

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
12. The following foreign patent is cited to show the best foreign prior art found by the examiner:


#### **European Pat. No. EP 301909 A2 to Carrell**

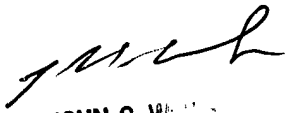
Carrell discloses a database for accessing appts. e.g. for the postal service using OCR, to read name and address on sequentially conveyed mail for correlation with file track coordinates on a CD-ROM disc.

13. Additional Non-Patent Literature has been referenced on the attached PTO-892 form, and the Examiner suggests the applicant review these documents before submitting any amendments.

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14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jonathan Ouellette whose telephone number is (703) 605-0662. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, 8am - 5:00pm.
15. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (703) 308-2702. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned (703) 872-9306 for all official communications.
16. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-5484.

  
jo  
December 23, 2003

  
JOHN G. WEISS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNICAL CENTER 3600